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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Masters, *et al.* Examiner: T. Dougherty
Serial No.: 10/041,919 Art Unit: 2834
Filing Date: January 8, 2002
Title: LASER MACHINING OF ELECTROACTIVE CERAMICS

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on March 30, 2004.


Susan M. Dinsmore

Sir:

OFFICE ACTION RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

This Response to Office Action is filed in response to the Office Action mailed **October 30, 2003**, rejecting claims 17-25. The cited references are JP 64-25583 A (hereinafter referred to as "Ayusawa") and U.S. Patents Nos. 4,992,692 (hereinafter referred to as "Dias") and 5,076,314 (hereinafter referred to as "Ikehata"). The following amendments and remarks remove all grounds for rejection of the application, thereby placing it in condition for allowance.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims that begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 4 of this paper.

An Appendix starts after page 9 of this paper.